

Intensification of worldwide social relations, linking states in such a way that developments in one place are influenced by happenings many miles away.

Previously isolated communities are welded together and they become mutually dependent.

The characteristics of globalisation are internationalising of production, migratory movements, and the consideration of the states as agencies

Globalisation is what the Third World countries had in the past-colonisation

It is on-going process in which boundaries between territorial states become less central and world becomes a borderless social sphere.

Here a distinction may be drawn between internationalisation and globalism. Internationalisation refers to the intensification of connections between states, but they remain distinct. Whereas as a result of internationalisation borders exist, globalisation establishes a web of transborder networks. Globalisation blurs boundaries and makes connections distanceless and instantaneous. Both these processes can co-exist. In fact, relations between countries today are international and global.

### Some Aspects of Globalisation

One of the aspects of globalisation is that it works through communications like computer networks and electronic mass media. These technologies make possible immediate contact. Globalisation involves the growth of companies, associations and regulatory agencies. Measures against climate change, ozone depletion and conservation of resources are taken not in states in isolation but the world as a single place. Production factories have gone global. Various stages of production are not confined to a particular economy; they link up across countries in a single production line. Satellites link the world as one strategic realm. Regulations involving technical standards and norms like human rights are aspects of globalisation. When we find foreigners in our country or hear of plum jobs taken up by professionals from

other countries, we become conscious of globalisation. When we watch breaking news on television or munch Big Mac, we experience this shift in our consciousness. The practice of international relief in times of natural calamities and national armies joining forces in peace-keeping under the auspices of the United Nations are the manifestations of globalisation. While we live in our own homeland, we also live in the world.

However, there are certain limitations regarding the extent and consequences of globalisation. Globalisation is not experienced evenly across the world. It is much more experienced in the North of the world. It affects city dwellers, professionals and the younger generations more. Globalisation is not a process of homogenisation. National identity remains intact. States continue to guard boundaries to inhibit migration and smuggling. There is no single driving force behind the process of globalisation. It may be a vain hope to think that globalisation should bring peace, prosperity and universal equality.

### Economic Globalisation

There are sceptics of contemporary globalisation who argue that the current globalising economy is nothing new and what we have witnessed at the end of the last century is a phase of increased cross-border trade and finance. In their view, governments can impose restrictions on international trade and movement of people and capital. To support their view, they claim that what are termed 'global' companies conduct their businesses from their country of origin and are dependent upon the policies of the state.

The opposite view held by defenders of contemporary globalisation is that 'economic' globalisation is a process of integration leading to the creation of a global society and the removal of border controls. The existence of open borders would mean the elimination of international companies. The state would no longer control the movement of finance, people, messages and ideas and the open world economy would yield prosperity, democracy and peace for humanity.